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## NHSN Links

*NHSN Website*

*NHSN Patient Safety Protocols*

*DHQP Website*

## Contact Us

NHSN@cdc.gov

## NHSN Users Meeting - APIC Annual Conference in Tampa

NHSN will host a Users Meeting at the APIC Annual Conference in Tampa. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14 at 5:00 pm in Rooms 13-14-15-16. We hope to see you all in sunny Tampa!

## NHSN Patient Safety Component Protocol Document Revised

In an ongoing effort to give our users better and more complete supporting documentation, we have made significant changes in the NHSN Patient Safety Component Protocol document which can be found on the "Documents" page of the NHSN website. The changes have been highlighted in yellow in the document and are also listed below. As you can see, the additions and changes are quite important so you should consider printing a new copy.

- Table of Contents added
- Page 4 - Methodology for Device-associated module added
- Page 5 - Changes/clarifications to central line definition including
  - Definition of "infusion" (page 5)
  - Determination of temporary central line days in any patient unit (page 8)
  - Determination of permanent central line days in any patient unit (page 8)
- Page 25 - AUR - Reference to NCCLS changed to Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) for interpretive guideline (also page 49)
- Page 26 - Methodology for Procedure-associated module added
- Page 28 - Specific types of superficial incisional SSI (i.e., SIP and SIS) definitions added
- Page 29 - Specific types of deep incisional SSI (i.e., DIP and DIS) definitions added
- Page 36 - Changes to permanent and temporary central lines
- Page 43 - Changes to permanent and temporary central lines
- Page 60 - "Procedure #" field added to Instructions for Completion of Denominator for Procedure form
- Page 60-63 - Key Terms - the following were amended or

added:

- Central Line
- DIP
- DIS
- Permanent Central Line
- SIP
- SIS
- Temporary Central Line

## NHSN Opens to Groups

If you've been wanting to nominate a group, NHSN is ready for you to do that. A group can be two or more healthcare entities that wish to share some or all of their surveillance data with each other. Remember that CDC only facilitates data sharing, it is up to NHSN member facilities to nominate, join, and confer access rights to data. CDC does not create groups for you to join. For more information about the group functionality, please see below and review the slideset for the training session of 01/20/2005.

### Steps to create a Group

1. A facility nominates a Group by naming the group, designating a Group Administrator, and creating a joining password for the group.
2. After receiving email notification from NHSN, the Group Administrator applies for a digital certificate and logs into NHSN via the Secure Data Network.
3. The Group Administrator gives their Group ID # and joining password to NHSN facilities it wants to recruit.
4. An NHSN facility joins the group and confers data access and/or analysis rights to the group.

## NHSN Statistics - as of May 29, 2006

Facilities enrolled and submitting data to NHSN	241
Monthly Reporting Plans	2,370
Patients entered	77,977
Summary Data Records	3,992
Events entered	87,158
Bloodstream Infection (BSI)	3,524
Pneumonia (PNEU)	2,071
Surgical Site Infections (SSI)	3,082
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	2,824
Dialysis Incidents (DI)	2,354
Procedures	71,577
Facilities uploading OR procedure data	7
Output (Tables, Graphs, etc.) generated	11,268

## Newsletters to be Posted not Emailed

As you probably know, we have been trying to find the best way to communicate with you on a regular basis. The NHSN E-News seems to be an efficient way to send you periodic information and we've had good feedback on this format. Very soon we anticipate that we will post the Newsletter on our website and only send you a notification with a link. This will avoid sending very large emails to hundreds of recipients.

## IT Support for Receiving Blast Emails

Occasionally we will need to send you a standard email with an important timely announcement (e.g., "The Secure Data Network will be down for a few hours", etc.). The email format we use is HTML (standard web-language). Some of you have indicated that you cannot read these types of emails and have asked us to resend the email in a different format. We have tried to comply with these few requests, but as we soon open NHSN up to a much larger number of users, it will be impossible to resend each email. For this reason, we ask that you submit a request to your Information Technology support team to reconfigure your email account so that you can read HTML messages. Otherwise you could miss important information from NHSN.

We apologize if this is an inconvenience, but it is critical that we keep lines of communication open with all our members.